

Message Text

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MADRID PASS TO AMBASSADOR CARLUCCI

USIA FOR IWE/GAWRONSKI

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN, PINT, PO

SUBJ: MEDIA TREATMENT OF CAPT. VASCO LOURENCO

1. DIARIO DE NOTICIAS PUBLISHED JUNE 12 CAPT. VASCO LOURENCO'S REQUESTED CORRECTION TO HIS STATEMENTS MADE IN AN INTERVIEW FOR TASS AND REPRINTED IN DN JUNE 7 REGARDING SOVIET ASSISTANCE TO PORTUGAL. LOURENCO IS A MEMBER OF THE RULING REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL AND ITS OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN.

2. IN HIS LETTER TO DN, VASCO LOURENCO ACCUSED PAPER OF DISTORTING HIS STATEMENT TO TASS BY QUOTING HIM TO EFFECT THAT "SOVIETS ARE PLAYING THE MOST IMPORTANT ROLE IN SUPPORT AND ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO PORTUGAL." VASCO LOURENCO EXPLAINED THAT WHAT HE MEANT WAS THAT IN ORDER TO FURTHER TRUE NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE, A SMALL COUNTRY LIKE PORTUGAL WITH FEW RESOURCES NEEDS PRACTICAL ASSISTANCE AND NOT JUST GOOD INTENTIONS. IN THIS REGARD, THE USSR IS PLAYING "AN IMPORTANT ROLE." COMMENT: DN HAS GONE SO FAR LEFT IN ITS NEWS TREATMENT THAT EVEN CAPT. VASCO LOURENCO FEELS IT NECESSARY TO COMPLAIN.
OKUN

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